TOP CEL

SCREEN CARTOONISTS LOCAL 1461
800 Riverside Drive

January 1949 New York 32, N. Y.

O U R U N I O N

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
to be held on
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12th
at the
CAPITOL HOTEL
8th Ave at 51st St.
at 7.00 P.M.

With the January meeting, we start a new quarter, which means that in the next three months, January, February and March, we have to attend two meetings, or present in person to the Executive Board an acceptable excuse for the missed meetings. Our attendance record has been very good lately, and we hope we can keep it that way.

With negotiations going on, some Heads of Departments start bringing pressure for more production... or else... The Union, time and time again has stressed the point that we stand for an honest day's work, and we'll see that it is done that way, and any time such action is brought to our attention The Union acted energetically. However, with the employer's word that production is running very nicely, we wonder why there is such a disply of efficiancy from some heads of departments.

Lately the small studios have been very busy, which means that our office has been swamped with calls requesting help, especially animators, inkers and painters. No one is happier than we are to see such an activity, not only because our artists make more money, but because it shows that the producers and the industry is here to stay.

We are familiar with our ruling about no working for less than time-and-one-half, so, especially the girls, shouldn't bother with some producer cries that $1.85 an hour for painting is too much money. These rates are standard rates, and everyone has to pay the same.

Another point to bring out now is that according to the ruling, a written statement from the Union is necessary BEFORE the work is accepted. We have had cases in which the Business Agent found out about the job (Bob Brotherton's Teletoons) before he was informed and the letter requested. There is no doubt that at times the Producer is in a hurry and it is physically impossible to secure the letter. But a phone call to President Zander (LU-2-1400) or to the B. A. (WA-3-2821) could bring the O.K. right away.

FLIPPINGS

LEO BUCHNER sends regards from U.C.L.A. where he's doing fine..... HOWARD KAKUDO's name on Fletcher Smith cartoon "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer", cause for renewed friendship with long lost pal who saw cartoon at Roxy..... Prudcers - Note! SAM ROBINSON Class 1-A sound effects man, available. Contact Union office..... VOW WOW! BERNICE STEINBER (Famous) getting married! MARY VASOLIO (Famous) getting married! MARIE GAMSU, Union secretary, getting married!..... Buttons and Bows! ROSE SOTILLE, Union ex-secretary, had a little Susan Linda. MINDRED & BEN SOLOMON had a little Lois. MILLIE AUGUSTSON (Signal Corps) expecting a little redhead. NORMA SPALDING (Famous) expecting..... Single Gals! Note: Union secretaries get husbands - hmmm - gotta learn to type..... Cel-abrasions: Friday before Christmas and New Year, a holiday at the studios (except Cineffects...) Fletcher Smith bonused the employees. Sam Buchwald made with good cheer via bottles of shnopps and hours off for partying on Thursday..... GEORG OLDEN, CBS vacationed during holidays..... BOB SORIA, MATT GENTILELLA (Famous) given a week's vacation during holidays..... GLORIA GREEN replacing RHODA GRAPEK at Harrison's..... SYDEL SOLOMON leaving Tempo..... Sorry to hear: MAX KUBEL hospitalized with broken hip due to fall. Send word of cheer. LARRY SILVERMAN'S father passed away. Our most heartfelt sympathy and condolences! .....
A year older this month: LLOYD HALLOCK, FRANK NAPOLEON, DAN HUNN, JOHNNY VITA, MIKE BALUKAS, EDNA MAY REGAL, ELAINE BEAVER, DON FIGLIOZZI, JOE SCHUCK, TOM GOLDEN, SHANE

MILLER, ELSA DOMERQUE..... FRANK SPALDING (Famous) very much impressed by members and activities of Motion Picture Chapter American Veteran's Committee after attending meeting. Veterans - how about you? VERNICK will furnish information..... TAXES, SHMAXES..... HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

TRADE NEWS

For the record we like to publish the animation credit list in "So Dear To My Heart" the newest Disney live-action-animation picture. Cartoon Director, Ham Luske, Special process, Ub Iwerks; Story treatment, Marc Davis, Ken Anderson, William Peed; Art treatment, John Hench, Mary Blair, Dick Kelsey; Layout, A. Kendall O'Connor, Hugh Hennesy, Don Griffith, Thor Putnan. Backgrounds, Art Riley, Dick Anthony, Ralph Hulet, Brice Mack, Jim Trout, Ray Huffine. Animators, Eric Larson, Milt Kahl, John Lounsbery, Les Clark, Hal King, Don Lusk, Marvin Woodward; Effects animators, George Rowley, Josh Meador, Dan MacManus.

Publicicly reported cash dividents payments by motion picture companies were at the usual low Nov. level, the Dept. of Commerce reported last month. Total was only $224,000- but that was better than the $217,000 reported a year earlier.

Paramount was the first Company to present its employees with a Christmas bonus this year. All employees earning up to $100 per week received a week's salary not to exceed $50.00.

We have been informed by the Local in the West Coast that the cartoon studios have renewed until November 1949 their present contracts.

An association designed to turn out moderate priced animated films for television has been formed by Video Associates, Inc and Sturgis-Grant Production., Inc. Video has been producing packaged programs exclusively for television.

Jerry Fairbanks (Speaking of Animales) broke away from Paramount. New pact which was being negotiated fell through when Paramount insisted that Fairbanks withdraw from the video production field.

Box-office business in Oct. bounded upwards, hitting the highest point of the year and running close to 17% ahead of Oct. 1947, it was indicated by U. S. Bureau of Internal Revenue. Also it was reported that general admission tax collections in November, reflecting box-office business in October totaled $36,280,867, close to $5,200,000 better than the $31,091,909 collected in Nov. the previous year.

Television is moving so fast that visual programs are now accessible to 14,000,000 families, or, roughly, 37% of the U. S. homes, Audience Research, Inc. announced last month. Set manufacturers are now turning out 100,000 per month as compared to 27,000 a year ago.

Vallee Video has finished its first in a series of 15-minute cartoons for T-V and its offering the five-a-week layout to sponsors for 7,500 a week. Titled "Tele-Comics", films consist of a quartet of 3 minute cartoons. Individual segments are "Brother Goose", drawn by Cal Howard; "Sa-Lih," by A. J. Metcalfe: Joey and Jug," by Arnold Gillespie, and "Rick Rack, Special Agent," by Miles Pike and Pete Burness. Voices are supplied by Jack Kirkwood, Lillian Leigh and Bill Grey. Outfit, which has a five-year lease on its newly remodeled studio, is also open for rental.

From Daily Variety, Jan. 3/49. "DESPITE CLAIMS OF EXHIBITORS THAT THERE WAS NO TURNSTILE MUSIC IN 48, THE TAKE AT THE NATION'S PICTURE THEATRE BOXOFFICES IN 1948 WAS VIRTUALLY AS HIGH AS IN BANNER YEAR 1947, ON THE BASIS OF INTERNAL REVENUE FIGURES. TWENTY PERCENT ADMISSIONS TAXES FOR THE FIRST TEN MONTHS OF THE YEAR, PLUS SEMI-OFFICIAL ESTIMATES FOR THE LAST TWO MONTHS AMOUNTED TO $385,500,000.

TOP CEL

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800 Riverside Drive
New York 32, N. Y.

February 1949

OUR UNION

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
to be held on
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9th
at the
CAPITOL HOTEL
8th Ave. at 51st St.
sy 7:00 P.M.

The Local has just signed the 1949 FAMOUS CONTRACT. In spite of the difficulties some people have in making ends meet, no raises were granted. However, the Company is giving merit raises to a few workers.

The Local has for a long time advocated a cumulative sick leave clause. This is now in effect. Previously, many members did not have to use their full sick leave in one year, only to find that either accident or illness confined them to bed for longer than the contract allowed the following year. This is a welcome improvement.

Another important agreement was securing "top Seniority" for the department stewards. Up until now the stewardship changed each month in most departments, but with this new protection, it is hoped to have permanent stewards. The steward's job is not only the collection of dues at the end of the month. He is also the Union's spokesman and advisor in his department. He should "police" the contract and submit his observations to the Local. By working closer with the members a better relationship is bound to be created with the Studio and the Local.

Somehow we were able to simplify the language of the contract, although the rest of the conditions remain exactly the same as last year. It is our aim to present the members with a brief resume of the contract, so that each member, at a glance, can know his rights and duties.

Top Cel wants to congratulate the Negotiating Committee for doing a swell job under difficult circumstances.

The New York Heart Association has "to spread public understanding of America's Number One Health Problem." It solicited permission to have one of its Physicians give us a brief talk about Heart Diseases, plus answers to our questions. The whole procedure is free, so the Board felt that we could have this talk at our next meeting, Wednesday, the 9th.

The problem of bringing visitors to the meetings was brought up to the Executive Board. It was felt that their presence like the presence of the Work Permit Holders is recommended, as we want everyone to know how our business meetings are conducted. Only members of good standing can use the privilege of voting, so it was decided that in the future, the Warden, George Ottino, in allowing guests to attend, should ask them to announce their presence to the President, so if necessary (like in a closed vote) the President can request them to leave the hall.

Among the recommendations from the Executive Board this month is the creation of a Welfare Committee of three, to be entrusted with the study and recommendation of the requests for aid, and for the ways and means to bring more money into this fund. Until now, this fund has been needed by only a few members, and these few can attest to its merit. It is hoped that this group will be functioning before too long.

At a recent meeting of the Executive Board, the problem of nomination officers to the different Union committees was brought up. It has been a common practice to get up at meetings after one's name has been mentioned and say "I decline." We all realize that the majority of these refusals are unreasonable. At present, out of the twelve artists in the Assistant Dept. at Famous, five are on the Executive Board, while the Painters, with thirty five people in the Dept. are not represented. Do you think that this is the proper Union spirit? How about the Inbetweeners, Inkers, Painters, Background and Camera Departments showing some interest?

The Commercial Studios, with the exception of Lee Blair's, have no representatives at all. The Television Studios are not represented on the Board either. How can the Local protect their interests under these circumstances? How can these members learn what goes on and vote intelligently at our general membership meetings?

The Chairman has been instructed that in the future, he should ask each declining member the reason for his action, so the group as a whole may decide in the justification of his claim. Perhaps, in this way, people will learn how the Union functions, and with the efforts of everyone, we can make our position stronger.

FLIPPINGS

NELLIE SANBORN ill at hospital with pneumonia ..... Son born to NORMA SPALDING on Christmas Eve ..... TONY LOEB'S father passed away. Our heartfelt sympathy ..... MELLIE and RED AUGUSTSON the proud parents of a son "JAN" ..... SAM KAI to the Army, drafted ..... Working at Fletcher Smith: ORRY CALPINI, JIM LOGAN, and JOHNNY VITA ..... PAUL HALLIDAY at Cineffects ..... BILL FINLEY now at WPIX the News Television Station ..... EILEEN SCHRADER left Famous ..... NORMA KORN engaged ..... GORDON WHITTIER off to Bermuda in March ..... LARZ BOURNE, JACK OZARK, and ROD JOHNSON now home owners ..... One year older this month: FRANK HILLSBURG, LARZ BOURNE, HARVEY $\frac{1}{4}$ATTERSON, TOM MOORE, AL EUGSTER, HARRY RYTERBAND, GEORGE RUFFLE, MIKE NEBBIA, JOHNNY GENTILELLA, ELI LEVITAN, HOWARD SMITH, BOB MC KEE, LEONARD MC CORMICK, JOE ORIOLA, JACK OZARK, NICK TAFURI, RUDY SARSON, LARRY SILVERMAN, MILDRED BISHOP..... FRANK SPALDING in Florida.

TRADE NEWS

Paramount will probably release 52 short subjects during the next season, it was learned here. 18 less than the company's current rate of output. Although formal approval of the lineup is not expected until the end of this week, it is anticipated that product will embrace 30 cartoons, 10 Grantland Rice Sport Lights and 12 Pacemakers. Primary reason for the drop in output is the recent decision against renewing the contract of Jerry Fairbanks.

With lunar rocket travel currently in the military, scientific, and public spotlight, George Pal has acquired rights on "Operation Moon" by Robert A. Heinlein, and it will be filmed in a combination of live action, Puppetoon animation, and model technique.

The motion picture industry in 1948 purchased 2,000,000,000 feet of 35 mm. raw stock of all kinds.

Comic book publishers considering forming a protective association to prevent a united front against proposed restrictive legislation by state governments.

At the Directors Guild Forum and later at Cinema 16 showing last month, we saw some of Norman McLaren's animation. So unusual and effective was his work that we decided to make arrangements with the National Film Board of Canada for a special showing. We have been able to secure some of his films which will be shown at our next meeting February 9th at the end of the regular business. The unusualness of the technique makes it a must for everyone in our industry to see these films. We hope to get as big a crowd as we had at our last showing.

A series of 130 five-minute-cartoons for television was announced by Jerry Fairbanks Productions. Open-end subjects will be similar in format to serials, with each short a continued story. Animation for the series, to be called "Crusader Rabbit" will be done by Television Arts Productions, recently organized by J. Tropling Ward and Alexander Anderson.

According to Daily Variety "Final animation on last two reels of Arko's "Mr. Joseph Young of Africa" was completed last month and the picture will now be rushed through final scoring and dubbing, expected to take about another week. Rest of picture previously had been scored and dubbed. Film has been prepping for two full years, with camera work on live action and animation requiring one year."

Addressing the fourth annual convention of the Screen Directors Guild, producer Louis DeRochemont predicted that as a result of television, "The motion picture industry will be rebuilt along healthier sounder lines, with larger rewards going to those who contribute to the creation of the product rather than to the administrative hierarchy. I believe New York will become the center of motion picture production, particularly of films made for television."

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March 1949

OUR UNION

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
to be held on
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9th
at the
CAPITOL HOTEL
8th Ave. at 51st St.
at 7:00 P.M.

We read in the Animator that the West Coast Business Agent is instituting a program of meeting with all the department Stewards. This move coincides with our efforts to do the same at Famous, and to bring up to full strength the representation of the small commercial studios at our Executive Board meetings. With the ruling of "top seniority," for Stewards secured from Famous Studios in our recent negotiations, we hope to create a closer association between the workers and the Union. Any questions pertaining to the Union should be brought to the attention of the Steward as he is the representative. If the Steward is unable to sufficiently answer any question he will put said question before the Union Chairman or the Business Agent. All members should familiarize themselves with the functions of the Union, and to understand all parts of the contract. The Stewards at Famous are: Paint Dept. : PICKETT & BARNELL, Assistants: EHRET, Ink & Checking: KUSS, Animation: TAFURI, Inbetweeners: SZIGETI, Camera: HEINS, Story: KLEIN, Background: HALLOCK Jr.

Do you realize that the latest meeting attendance card is the only record in the Union office of your address, phone number, and place of employment?

It is requested that the card be properly filled out with correct home address and home phone number if any. Do not use your studio address and phone number as your own private residence.

Remember to give your card to the Warden on your way out of the meeting. This is the only way in which your attendance is verified.

We again wish to remind the members that those bringing guests to our meetings should inform the Chair of their presence. We are very much interested in having these guests see the democratic way we run our organization. However, only members in good standing are allowed to take part in our deliberations or in voting.

At the last general Membership meeting a Welfare Committee, under the Chairmanship of Myron Waldman was formed. Dave Tendlar, Ruth Gorman and Ruth Picket comprise the balance of the Committee. This Committee will recommend to the Board needy cases, and also find the ways and means to bring money into the fund. It is understood that they are busy preparing a brief for our consideration.

The Executive Board is recommending the following six months Work Permit Holders for membership:

DOROTHY WITCHOFF, JOHN SVOCAK, ROBERT TEANEY, JACQUELINE HANNER AND IRENE REINSTEIN. All will be initiated at the same meeting.

FREE LANCE WORK ON THE WEST COAST

It was with satisfaction that we read in the latest issue of the Animator the Union ruling, that, in the future, any worker engaged in free lance work should report it to the Union. We hope that the members out there take the ruling as seriously as we have been taking it here for the past three years, and that they cooperate - for their own good - as diligently as our workers do here.

The reasons, as pointed out in The Animator, are obvious. When we don't know what the other artists are getting for their work, we have to rely on the information given to us by the employer, which naturally, is not going to be in our favor. This way we know that our scales are the minimum. At the same time, it is not fair to ask one studio the Union rates when we know that another is getting away with murder. Of course it means a couple of bucks to us, but how about the standard of the industry?

Besides, when the Union polices the jobs, when the Local knows what the market is doing, it has a better chance to coordinate their activities or to distribute work more fairly. An employer still has the privilege of hiring anyone he pleases, but the Union could see that the work is passed around. We hope to see the day when the workers out there demand time-and-one-half for free lance work like we do here in New York.

FLIPPINGS

The Executive Board was sorry to hear that EDITH VERNICK was resigning due to ill health...ROCCO ELETTO at Film Graphics...Back from Europe SYLVIA RESNICK...New animator at Cineffects: Irving DRESSLER...LARS CALONIOUS here from the West coast...CAL HOWARD also in from the coast to join NBC Television....BILL FINLEY and JOCK PURINGTON left WPIX....The proudest papa of the month: BILL TYTLA with a baby girl....New Cameramen at Cineffects FRANK GIOVERNELLI, OLLIE BENSON and MAX DRESNER....NELLIE SANBORN back to Famous after illness....JOY SCOTT left Famous....JOHNNY GENT and BILL HUDSON received golf trophies last month presented by Parkchester Pelham Golf Club....MRS. ROSALIE WALDMAN (SOCOLOV) to be on BEST GIRL PROGRAM March 7th WOR 3:30 P.M....HARRY KAWADI (not Sam Kie as stated in the last issue of TC) drafted into the Army....Latest report on GORDON WHITTIER, trip to Bermuda still on....AL EAVENS, 424 8th St. Brooklyn would like to contact HICKS LOKEY somewhere on the coast...One year older this month: ELIZABETH HOWSON: STAN GREEN: LEO BUCHNER: ALICE MORGAN: DORTHY TESSER: CARL MYER: JOSE CARREON: MAURICE LEVY: TOM JOHNSON: FRANK DE LUCA: MARIE JACQUES: HARRY KUWADI: BEN LEVIN: ORESTES CALPINI: LILLIAN GROSSMAN: DORIS ZVIRIN: DAN DANGLO: ALICE AMENT: GEORGE OTTINO: THERON COLLIER: TONY LOEB: JACK OZARK:

TELEVISION & TRADE NEWS

About 100 scenic artist and designer members of Local 829 of the AFL Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers settled their three week strike against the Theatrical Contractors Assn. and resumed making sets for productions.

Irving Weinzweiz, mediator of the State Mediation Board, announced the settlement on the basis of a 50 cent-an-hour wage increase, raising their rate to $4.25 an hour. The strike delayed several production sets for out-of-town tryouts.

Advertisers listened with foreboding to the results of a survey released by New York City's Duane Jones Co. Of 1,580 TV owners answering a survey, 92.4% were listening to the radio less than before they owned TV sets; 80.9% were going to movies less frequently; 58.9% were reading fewer books; 48.5% read magazines less often; 23.9% were even skimping on newspapers. Over 70% reported a noticeable increase of visitors since installing TV.

Newspapers have the biggest stake in television, with broadcasting second and picture producers and exhibitors third, according to an analysis issued by the FCC. Of 435 video stations in operation, under construction and in application form, newspaper interests hold 128, radio stations 66 and film showmen 27.

Walter Lantz left for Honolulu last month on first leg of a junket which will take him in April to Europe and afterwards to South America. According to his publicity releases the company is working now on second year's production of his three-year deal with United Artists.

Cartoons eligible for Oscar this year: United Production "Robin Hoodlum;" Warner's "Mouse Wreckers;" Disney's "Mickey and the Seal" and "Tea for Two Hundred;" and Metro's "The Little Orphan." (We are happy to see the first UPA theatrical cartoon among the candidates.

It was pleasant to read from Detroit last month part of Walt Disney testimony of the SIMPP case where the producer said that all his pictures had been profitable except "Fantasia" so far, and where he stated that his own salary was $100,000. Later on here in New York he stated that as far as renting his pictures for television, he wanted to study the medium before doing any deal. "Two Fabulous Characters," had been set for release next fall. Film is an all-animation one that combines the English classic "Wind and Willows," which Basil Rathbone narrates with the "Legend of Sleepy Hollow," which Bing Crosby narrates.

Disney has worked out an ambitious five-year plan for himself and his staff of artists and technicians, which means, if he carries it all out--and we hope he will--that theatres throughout the world will be plentifully supplied with Disney's special brand of film entertainment even though there has been a drop in Hollywood production.

THOUGHTLESS DEPT...

ONE OF OUR MEMBERS WAS RECENTLY SEEN AT THE CORTILES RESTAURANT WHERE A STRIKE IS ON AND HAS BEEN FOR A LONG TIME. WE ARE SURE IF THE MEMBER REALLY CONSIDERED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SITUATION THIS WOULD NOT HAVE OCCURRED.

TOP CEL

SCREEN CARTOONISTS LOCAL 1461
800 Riverside Drive

April 1949 New York 32, N.Y.

OUR UNION

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
to be held
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13th
at the
CAPITOL HOTEL
8th Ave. at 51st St.
at 7:00 P.M.

Speaker: ALBERT HECK from Fletcher Smith Studios
Movies: Five United Productions films

At the last General Membership Meeting the members voted and passed a new attendance ruling. From now on members will attend only one meeting in each quarter instead of the two previously required. In spite of the warning given in the last issue of Top Cel in regard to attendance cards, some members merely signed their names, failing to fill in the rest of the card. Due to this laxity a number of the members were listed as not having attended the meeting, although later these people verified their attendance which seems to be the hard way of doing it. For the benefit of those who didn't see it, we reprint what we had to say last month concerning the attendance cards.

> Do you realize that the lates meeting attendance card is the only record in the Union office of your address, phone number, and place of employment? It is requested that the card be properly filled out with correct home address and home phone number if any. Do not use your studio address and phone number as your own private residence. Remember to give your card to the Warden on your way out of the meeting. This is the only way in which your attendance is verified.

The Executive Board also has changed its meetings, and in the future they will meet only once a month, the first Thursday of each month. The two meetings, plus the General Membership meetings were a hardship to many members, and as a result the attendance was not as well represented as it should have been. Now it is hoped that all members will be present at future meetings.

The Wage and Hour Divison of the U.S. Department of Labor, while making a routine inspection of the cartoon industry, has discovered so far that one of the studios was unknowingly violating the Wage and Hour Law. This violation came about because of a very recent interpretation by the U.S. Supreme Court stating that where a union contract requires premium pay (time-and-one-half) for work on Saturday, this premium pay is to be considered payment for working on an undesirable day and, in studios where the work week is not Monday through Friday, this Saturday premium pay shall be part of the regular rate of pay in determining base pay for over time. The Company recognized that it was unwittingly violating the law under this interpretation and immediately paid all back pay due and changed its work week to Mondays through Fridays. It is the union understanding that the inspection is continued. It is hoped that any new ruling or change that takes place in any dept., or any studio will be reported to the Steward so we can report what goes on. Recently a worker reported to the Local as being unemployed, and after we sent her to a studio for work the company called her former place of employment and was informed that the girl was back at work. A report from the steward would have saved embarrassment to the company making the call and to the Union for sending an employed member.

PLEASE REPORT ANY CHANGE TO THE STEWARD.

The Local has just renewed for another year the present contract with Fletcher Smith. As before, the contract is based on the Famous Studios agreement.

Top Cel is late in reporting the successful experiment at Cinneffects of giving the workers a break in the afternoon for "coffee." As proved at other studios, this not only breaks the monotony of the long four hours at the desk, but give a new impetus to the workers. Congrats!

By accident--in his policing job-- our Business Agent discovered that some studios were not paying the time-and-one-half premium as determined in our agreement. The same states that after eight (8) hours work, premium pay should be paid. What was done was that the time-and-one-half was not paid until the worker had worked 40 hours during that week, which of course was wrong. The Federal Wages and Hours Law runs that way, but our agreement calls for premium pay after

eight (8) hours, whether the artist works a full week or only one day. It is regretful that the members, in spite of the publicity given to our agreement, failed to notice this mistake. This has been corrected by our Business Agent, so it is hoped that the workers will be more careful in the future.

For our next meeting the Executive Board has invited BERT HECK, chief sales man for Fletcher Smith, to talk to us on the problems faced by the studios in selling our product, problems that we should know and that even some of us have to face any time we want to do some free lance work. Most of us know our business quite well, but since, until now, our product was sold to one company, we don't know this particular aspect. Bert, of course, will be happy to answer any questions we may have.

The film program at the next Meeting will be a United Production one and will include: "Rover Boys (Unfamiliarity of type Accidents)" Color; "Swab your Choppers" Color; "Idling mixture Check"; "Disorientation Crashes" and "Taxing collions" all of them for the U.S. Navy. Since the pictures are very good we hope everyone will be there.

FLIPPINGS.

LEE DONAHUE up from Miami to join Mutual Television.... DON TOWSLEY from the West coast now working at Film Graphic.... Working at Sturgis-Grant-Prod, MARY (Gamsu) MC CALLON.... At N.B.C., JOCK PURINGTON.... BERNICE STEINBERG married last month.... SAM COBEAN and wife now in Paris....SYLVIA ALEVY now working at Cineffects.... very elegant the remodeling of Fletcher Smith studios with new offices and furniture.... WEB MURPHY now working at Animation House.... CHUCK HARRITON ill at home.... EDITH VERNICK's resignation from the Executive Board was due to reasons of her own not illness as stated in the last issue of T.C..... One year older this month: PEGGY ADRIAN, EDYTH BARNELL... EDITH VERNICK... NONA TURNER... SAM LEVY... AARON KRAWETZ... SAUL KESSLER... EARL JAMES, LARRY CHECCO... FRANK BACHER... RUBE GROSSMAN... PHYLLIS NEEDLE... MARGARET SESSA... MYRON WALDMAN ... NELLY SANBORN... PEGGY MONNOT... BEA SERTNER... ESTER DAYTON... IRIS TOMBERG... JUDITH GILBERT ... EILEEN and JOAN SARACINO... FRANK LITTLE.

TRADE NEWS

The 1948 Academy Award winners for the best cartoons of the year are "The Little Orphan" (MGM) and two reeler "Seal Island" (Disney).

Top Cel was happy to notice among the candidates for Oscars Documentary Production, "Operation Vittles" (Berlin Airlift) produced by 4201 Motion Picture Squadron in Astoria, with animation by Frank Little, Joseph Creaturo, Luis Terrizi and Vincent Eletto.

We read last month in a Long Beach paper that Ray Katz and Henry Binder shortly will re-enter the cartoon production field with a new studio of their own.

Famous Studios has resigned from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. For what ever reasons the Academy may have, seldom does an Eastern film get a break in their yearly competition. It is understood that the pseudo honor of receiving an Oscar is nothing more than free publicity, but still one would be nice if they gave our shorts a break.

We are enjoying Republic publicity for its "Impossible Cartoons" and according to the press reviews, the cartoons are "honeys". It would be nice if the releasing companies would spend some dough in similar publicity for our product.

We read in the New Rochelle Standard Star that Terrytoons will move to their own building by the end of July. The three story building at 38 Center Ave. was formerly the Knights of Columbus building.

New three-feature world wide distribution deal negotiated by RKO and Disney includes "Treasure Island" which will be the first 100% live action picture to be made by cartoon studio. Pictures in the order of their release will be "Ichabod and Mr. Toad, "Cinderella" and "Treasure Island." "Cinderella" will be presented entirely in animation and is expected to be ready for release at Christmas. "Ichabod and Mr. Toad", 100% animation also, will be ready for release in September. Bing Crosby will narrate and sing three songs for Ichabod. Basil Rathbone will do the narration for the Mr. Toad story.

To avoid some misunderstanding we should explain that the General Motors picture shown at our last meeting was done by Film Graphic under sub-contract from Sound Maters. That's why the later company had the credit for the film.

The film industry is on the verge of the greatest production boom in its history, in the opinion of A. Pam Blumenthal, veteran executive and Cinecolor board chairman. Blumenthal said that contrary to the general tendency of opinion on the coast he was "extremely bullish" and expected that by the coming Fall Hollywood would be a "bee-hive of activity." Prime stimulus to the increased activity, he said, will be the opening up of competition among theatres as a result of the divorcement of exhibition from distribution. Less playing time will be the result, he pointed out, and consequently more pictures will be needed. Ultimately, Blumenthal foresees television as extending the boom tremendously, not necessarily within the coming months but whenever the new medium reaches the stage where it can pay for product made specifically for its use.

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800 Riverside Drive
New York 32, N.Y.

May 1949

O U R U N I O N

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
to be held on
WEDNESDAY, MAY 11th
at the
HOTEL CLARIDGE BALL ROOM
Broadway and 44th St.
at 7:00 P.M.

On the agenda: Nominations for next years officers
Speaker: BERT HECK from Fletcher Smith Studios
Movies: Animated Television Commercials

Once again we have to nominate candidates at our June election for officers in our Union. This is the time when we have to recognize our duties and obligations towards the organization that is representing us and working for us. In contrast to former years, the Chair has been instructed to demand from a proposed nominee his or her reasons for not accepting the nomination. Quite often, in a form of fun, members decline the nomination, leaving the responsibility of running the Union to the same few. Please discuss with other members of the Union possible canidates and their qualifications for the offices. Then talk to the persons to get their viewpoint concerning the nominations. This should assure a smooth procedure of electing officers. The offices to be filled are: PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, RECORDING SECRETARY, FINANCIAL SECRETARY, TREASURER, WARDEN, CONDUCTOR, THREE TRUSTEES, BUSINESS AGENT, and TOP CEL EDITOR.

At our last meeting the problems and possible solutions presented by Television to our Animation field were complex and challenging. Although we have already done a certain amount of work in Television we are very much interested in learning what the West Coast local is doing to catch up with us. Thus this meeting will be devoted in part to movies of Television commercials, good or bad.

Please notice that our meetings are not taking place at the Capitol Hotel anymore. When that Hotel wanted to raise our rent, the Executive Board decided that it was time to look for a new meeting place. The Times Square location of the Claridge Hotel should be more convenient to everyone.

The New York Post now has a Labor Department page devoted to the problems of unions and workers. It is a page whereby one can check the progress of current strikes and also note the rulings affecting our organization. The Executive Board recommends that members, when ever possible, should try to read this page as it is the only labor news in the metropolitan papers.

ATTENTION WEST COAST BROTHERS: Again we hear rumbling from the West coast about New York being the land of opportunity for the animation biz. We wish to stress here that we do not intend to honor any artist unless they get an O.K. from Local 852 first. We want to make sure that members coming East have jobs and that their accounts are settled with their Local. Anyone desiring information, please contact your office.

F L I P P I N G S

We were very sorry to hear of the premature death of RED AUGUSTON'S brother. Our deepest condolances....ROSE SANTO back from a pleasant vacation in Washington....Vacations will be at the same time as last year at Famous Studios, the first two weeks in August....Excellent display of BEN HARRISON's third dimensional television animation technique in the May issue of MECHANIX ILLUSTRATED....Everyone very happy about Famous Studio's Easter shows for the children....Sorry to hear about HARVEY PATTERSON's illness. Hope to see him back soon....AL GEIS now working at Cineffects....LARRY CHECCO to be married on the 14th at Saint Patricks Cathedral....Norma KORN getting married next month....T.C. happy to hear that PEGGY ADRIAN is feeling better.... NORAH LANG now at Famous....Mr. & Mrs. ART BABBIT in New York....Also STEVE BOSUSTOW, PHIL EASTMAN.... Out of Terry: ROD SANTI....In the sick list last month MARGIE SCHULTHEIS....One year older this month: PETE CALDERA....MARIE (GAMSU) McCALLON....JACK WARD....MARY KIRBY....IDA GOTTFURCHT.... MARCIA KAPLAN....ALICE REHBERG....JOHN BURKS....MEL BASHAM....RHODA GRAPEK....NORAH LANG.... JIM TANAKA....NAT FRIEDLAND....GORDON SHEEHAN....CARMEN ELLETTO....MAX KUBEL....FRANK ENDERS.... TILLIE LIPPMAN....ELLIOT ENGLE....BILL HENNING....MARIANA JOHNSON....JOE STULTZ.

OCCASIONAL WORK

The following is a copy of a letter recently sent to one of the local studios:

In order to protect the established studios that maintain regular staffs where weekly salaries were complemented with other benefits, as vacations, sick leave, severance pay, etc., the members decided to give up their right to do occasional work for contract rates unless said work was permanent, that is, longer than a three week period. If the work is temporary, it was decided they should not work for less than time-and-one-half of their regular rates.

Although by our agreement, no Employer is compelled to pay these rates, it is understood among the workers that they will be breaking union rules if they don't demand the premium rate, and to that effect, every single member, before taking a temporary job, has to secure from the business Agent or the President of the Union, permission to do so, having to state how much compensation they are receiving.

Since it is not our intention to penalize anyone, but to protect the established studios as well as our members, we never wanted to start an argument in the middle of a picture. However, we would appreciate it, if in the future, you take this problem into consideration. It is hard for our members not knowing how much they would be paid, or how much overtime would be received after an eight-hour day. We believe it would be fair to you as well as to us."

TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT RATES

	Per foot	Per week	Per hour
Animation	$ 7.50	$ 187.50	$ 5.00
Assisting	4.50	112.50	3.00
	Per drawing		
Inbetweening	.45	75.00	2.00
	Per cel		
Inking	.24	70.50	1.85
Painting	.40	66.00	1.65

After 8 or 40 hours, the usual time-and-one-half.

TRADE NEWS

N.A.V.E.D. Newsletter brought forth a statement of policy by Disney warning the members of that organization that their cartoons cannot be sub-licensed or rented. "Our contract is very strict in that distribution of our cartoons must remain non-theatrical."

Lantz is formulating a plan to make a number of cartoons in England, utilizing frozen money. The Producer will attempt to make a deal with one of the British Cartoon Companies for use of its artist and facilities, on flat rate basis with Lantz to supply script and all advance preparation for actual work.

Screen Publicists Guild has voted to disfiliate from the Painters Brotherhood and to function henceforth as an independent guild.
In the same referendum, the membership rejected a proposed affiliation with the IATSE, which had filed an NLRB petition for an election to determine an appropriate bargaining agent. Disssatisfaction with the Painters Brotherhood affiliation has prevailed since 1945 studio strike, in which the SPG participated as an affiliate.

PARIS: Walt Disney has lost a legal action here that he brought against a candy manufacturer who made a product called "Blanche Neige," (Snow White,). Court ruled the name goes back to the Grimm brothers, authors of the fairy tales.

HOLLYWOOD: Three-color Trucolor will make its debut this month with the release by Republic of Impossible Pictures cartoon, "Beyond Civilization to Texas." Process has been under development during the past four years by Consolidated Film Laboratories and Dupont. Subject was photographed here by the three separation negative method, with prints processed by Consolidated at Fort Lee, N.J., utilizing the first 250,000 feet of positive manufactured by DuPont.

"There are 18,000 movie theatres in the United States and eventually all will be equipped for showing television on their screens just as surely as they converted to sound in the 1930's," Paul Raibourn, Paramount vice-president in charge of television, said in April issue of The Elks Magazine. "The basic appeal of the movies is identical," he states. "Television shows in the future, especially elaborate, expensive productions, will be filmed and as a consequence, will in a measure approach the technical excellence of motion pictures." Raibourn also told of Paramount's experience with large-screen video pick-ups of special events at its Paramount Theater, New York.

STORY DEPT: Video writers will discuss "Fundamentals of Television" at a meeting at the RCA Exhibition Hall here Thursday night. The meeting will be the first of a series of five sponsored by the Television Writers Guild of the Authors League of America.

TOP CEL

SCREEN CARTOONIST LOCAL 1461
800 Riverside Drive
New York 32, N.Y.

June 1949

OUR UNION

NOTICE OF COMPULSORY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
to be held on
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8th
at the
HOTEL CLARIDGE BALL ROOM
44th St. and Broadway
at 7:00 P.M.

This meeting is a compulsory one at which we will elect our officers for the coming year. The following members were nominated at our last meeting:

FOR PRESIDENT	JACK ZANDER (Transfilm)
FOR VICE PRESIDENT	MOREY REDEN...MARTY TARAS...(FAMOUS)...S. SOLOMON (free lance)
FOR TREASURER	LARRY SILVERMAN...C. NIEWENHOUS..(FAMOUS)
FOR RECORDING & FINANCIAL SEC.	G. SOGIOKA..(F. SMITH)...RUTH PICKET...A. TUGGLE..(FAMOUS)
FOR CONDUCTOR & WARDEN	J. LOGAN (Free lance)...I. SPECTOR..(FAMOUS)...D. SALTER (FILM GRAPHIC)
FOR TRUSTEES	J. FOSTER.(Film Graphic)...T. HENSON...J. VITA (free lance)
FOR BUSINESS AGENT	PEPE RUIZ
FOR TOP CEL EDITOR	T. HENSON (free lance)...L. RILEY..(FAMOUS)

In the past we have observed that some producers wait until a client pays them, and then they pay their artists. This is an unfair practice, in that although the producer is assured of his payment from the client, the artist does his work with no guarantee that he will be paid. There have, in fact, been instances when producers have failed to pay their artists.
Members want to know that when their work is finished and accepted, they will receive full compensation. The Executive Board will present a recommendation to that effect at the next General Membership meeting. The recommendation reads as follows: "No member of the Union can make arrangements with a producer for wage payments that are not to be made in the customary manner. Arrangements for payments in any other manner must be approved by the Executive Board." We hope that all free lance workers express themselves on this matter, as they are the ones primarily affected.

At the last General Membership meeting the Business Agent spoke of certain members who did fail to report to the Union when they did free lance work. The Executive Board ordered that it is imperative that those wishing to accept a free lance job so inform the Union, and receive the Union's approval before accepting the work. Those found negligent in this respect will be fined one week's salary. If those fined wish to appeal, they must appear before the next Board meeting June 2nd.

Film showings at our meetings have been highly successful. We wish to thank all those responsible for the successful outcome of this venture, primarily the Business Agent, who secured the films, LU GUARNIER, who brought and operated the projector, and LEE BLAIR (Film Graphic, Inc.), who gave us the use of the projector. The Board has sent these members written letters expressing our gratitude.

FLIPPINGS: ELI LEVITAN rushed to a hospital last month....The LEE BLAIRS spending a well deserved holiday at Provinstown....In from the West coast, TONY RIVERA....BILL STURM no longer connected with Fletcher Smith Studios. He now has his own place. LARRY CHECCO married last month and now honeymooning in Italy....JOE STULTZ on leave of absence from Famous Studios to work on new TV animation project.
ON YEAR OLDER THIS MONTH: DAVE PETERS....RED AUGUSTSON....WOODY GELMAN....CECILE NIEWENHOUS.... MARY VASSILIO....IRENE REINSTIEN....GEORGE GERMANETTI....DICK LANG....BEN FARISH....ELSIE OLESEN ....BILL FINLEY....FRANCIS SRIBNICK....

TRADE NEWS:
Los Angeles: Television station KTLA last month became the originating station for the West

Coast's first television network hookup, when San Diego watched the inaugural program of San Diego's first television station, KFMB-TV viewing a KTLA Los Angeles video show.
This was the beginning of Paramount's West Coast television net work.
Some Metropolitan New York circuits among them Walter Reade Theatres and RKO, have dropped newsreels in secondary, double-bill situations as an experiment, holding that telecasts have reduced the news value of the reels.
Walter Reade Jr., emphasized that no "A" houses have been affected by the cuts and said that a questionnaire circulated among managers of theatres where newsreels have been dropped failed to reveal a complaint by a single patron. Reade said that outdated newsreels serve only as a free boost for television.
Sol Schwartz, RKO theatre executive, was inclined to minimize the action and also stressed that it was put into effect in smaller houses only, but he too, saw video as a prime factor for the declining interest in newsreels.
To us as cartoonists, it means from now on the double feature houses, our worst enemy, will find more time to show our product. According to a survey carried on by the West Coast, the Exhibitors needed more cartoons. The Studios should double their efforts to sell more animation especially since we have a wonderful opportunity to crack the double feature boys.

FROM VARIETY: "Paramount has dropped three of its old-standby series of shorts from its 1949-50 releasing schedule because the rising production nut has turned the profitable trio into a losing proposition. The three series all made by Jerry Fairbanks are "Popular Science", "Unusual Occupations", and "Speaking of Animals". With these briefies lopped, Fairbanks' production ties with Par end.
Tightening of Par's shorts production program brings down the total to be released in 1949-50 to 52 from previous 70. Additionally, company will continue its usual 104 issues of the newsreel. To meet the television threat, an increasing number of reels will be confined to one subject each in a combo of spot news and editorial treatment.
"Popeye Cartoons", top short earned for the company, are again on the releasing slate. Costing about $65,000 each, including print and distribution expenses, this string of cartoons bring in some $15,000 profit per pic. Another money maker is the "Screen Songs" cartoons generally good for $10,000 profit each domestically.
Slate calls for eight Popeye shorts, 12 Screen Song cartoons, 10 Noveltoons cartoons, six reissues of Paramount Champions, six Pacemakers and 10 Grantland Rice Sportlights."

Film companies are apparently looking ahead to the television rights of current properties. Indications of future plans were seen with Warner Bros. warning to Puppeteer George Prentice last month to stop using a nine second Bugs Bunny bit in his act. Prentice was notified that he cannot do it without studio permission and none would be granted at this time. Feeling is that the studio wants to reserve all TV rights and any use around the vaude, cafe and vaudeo circuits would make this particular bit a stale item by the time film firm is ready to market the bugs bunny series on television.

LONDON, -- RKO-Walt Disney British Productions, Ltd., has been formed here. It is understood that the company will utilize frozen sterling accured here to the credit of Disney, with the Technicolor production of Rober Louis Stevenson's "Treasure Island" to be the first product of the new organization.
Lester Koenig, Paramount writer, has set up his own record company and the talent signed consists of a group of Disney technicians who play Monday nights at the Beverly Carvern. Tagged the Fire house Seven, it consists of Ward Kimball, trombone (look in pag. 28 of Coronet for some publicity pictures of him); Clark Mallory, clary; Johnny Lukas, trumpet; Harper Goff, banjo; Jim Mac Donald, drums; Ed Penner, bass sax, and Frank Thomas.

SINCE IT IS NOT OUR INTENTION TO PENALIZE ANYONE, BUT TO PROTECT THE ESTABLISHED STUDIOS AS WELL AS OUR MEMBERS, WE NEVER WANT TO START AN ARGUMENT IN THE MIDDLE OF A PICTURE. HOWEVER, WE WOULD APPRECIATE IT, IF IN THE FUTURE, YOU TAKE THIS PROBLEM INTO CONSIDERATION. IT IS HARD FOR OUR MEMBERS NOT KNOWING WHEN OR HOW MUCH THEY WOULD BE PAID, OR HOW MUCH OVERTIME WOULD BE RECEIVED AFTER AN EIGHT-HOUR DAY. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE FAIR TO YOU AS WELL AS TO THE LOCAL TO NOTIFY IT BEFORE ACCEPTING ANY FREE LANCE WORK.

TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT RATES

	Per foot	Per week	Per hour
Animation	$ 7.50	$ 187.50	$ 5.00
Assisting	4.50	112.50	3.00
	Per drawing		
Inbetweening	.45	75.00	2.00
	Per cel		
Inking	.24	70.50	1.85
Painting	.40	66.00	1.65

TOP CEL

SCREEN CARTOONIST LOCAL 1461
800 Riverside Drive
New York 32, N. Y.

July 1949 — Ed. Larry Riley

O U R U N I O N

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
to be held on
Tuesday, July 12th
HOTEL CLARIDGE BALL ROOM
Broadway and 44th St.
at 7:00 P.M.

Please notice that the meeting will take place on the second Tuesday July 12th instead of the customary second Wednesday. This date was approved by the members at our last meeting.

As announced at the June meeting the following members were elected to the new Executive Board:

JACK ZANDER	President
MOREY REDEN	Vice President
LARRY SILVERMAN	Treasurer
GENE SOGIOKA	Financial Secretary
CHARLOTTE TUGGLE	Recording Secretary
IRVING SPECTOR	Conductor
JIMMY LOGAN	Warden
RUTH KUSS	Trustee
GLORIA GREEN	Trustee
TEX HENSON	Trustee

DELEGATES:.....DAVE SALTERS..AL SEMELS..Film Graphics.....DON FIGLOZZI..TOM NAGELE..Television.....FRANK DECLUCA..HOWARD KAKUDO..Fletcher Smith.....IZZY KLEIN..EDITH VERNICK..Famous.....JONNY VITA..BILL FOX..Animation House.

The oath of office was administered to the new Executive Board by Johnny Gentilella. It is good to see some new faces at the head of our organization. For the past few years the same faithful members carried out the task of running the Union successfully. We wish to thank the outgoing members for a job well done and to wish the new Board success in their endeavour to continue the smooth operation of our Union.

At the June meeting the following recommendation was ruled by the General Membership: "No member of the Union can make arrangements with a producer for wage payment that aren't to be made in the customary manner. Arrangement for payment in any other manner must be approved by the Executive Board". Any exception to this arrangement must also be first approved by the Board. Should any new producer need help on this matter the local will only be too happy to be of assistance.

WHEN CONTACTED FOR WORK BE SURE YOU UNDERSTAND THE EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS, MAINLY HOW AND WHEN YOU WILL BE PAYED. FAILURE TO DO THIS WILL BREAK UNION RULES.

It has been decided that there will be no meeting in AUGUST, since so many members will be on vacation during that time. Last year the members not on vacation were unable to secure the required quorum determined by our constitution.

F L I P P I N G S:

New at Film Graphic GENE SOGIOKA, STANLEY RUSSELL, RAMOND SETI...BILL SUCHMANN from A.B.C. a new papa...TONY RIVERA'S Family arrived from the West coast also from Hollywood, HAL AMBRO and CARL FALLBERG...NANCY MASSIE and LEW KELLER now at Tempo Productions...JIMMY LOGAN and JOHNNY VITA now working for BILL STURM...ROSE CODELA married last month, congratulations... another new father, MEL BASHAM...LENORE EPSTEIN no longer with Famous, now living in Boston ...FRANK SPALDING to Vets Hospital in the Bronx for an operation...NORMA KORN and HAROLD ROLF married last June 11th.

ONE YEAR OLDER THIS MONTH:...AL BARTHEN...LEW KELLER...BILL PATTENGILL...JOHN SVOCAK...KAY SIMONIAN...MARTIN PROVENSEN...IRVING SPECTOR...JACK EHRET...HELEN BROWN...ROSE MARIE BRACCO ...ART RANKIN...BOB CONNAVALE...LESTER SCHUDDE...OLGA COLON...SYLVIA ALEVY...CARL CUCINOTTO ...HERB HUGHES...MILDRED BOURNE...ROSE BROWN...GLORIA GREEN...and ROCCO ELETTO.

TRADE NEWS

The results of the Hollywood Local elections were: Ben Washam, President; Bill Hurtz, Vice President; Tom Byrne, Treasurer; Gerald Nevius, Financial Secretary; Charlotte Lewis, Recording Secretary; Jack Bailey, Conductor; Emery Hawkins, Phil Monroe and Ray Patterson,

Trustees. Howard Baldwin, The Animator Editor. Bill Littlejohn, Business Agent.

Top Cel wishes to extend congratulations to the new officers and specially to the new Business Agent. All members on the West coast know he was one of the original leaders in organizing the Union and securing its first contract at MGM. No one can perform miracles, but with Bill as representative of the Local the problems of the Union will be easier.

An exhibit depicting the history of "Comics" during the last 20,000 years was opened last month in Albany's State Library. The exhibit occupies the entire rotunda of the State Education Building and includes 1,200 items.

"Anyone who says this medium of ours, the motion picture, is drying up is just plain loco--it just isn't so," Pres. Barney Balaban of Paramount told an industry luncheon audience at the Hotel Astor. In terms of film rentals, the important yardstick, in the industry is still substantially ahead of the pre-war years. While there presently is some drop from the all-time peak established in 1946, the film rentals of the first quarter were well ahead of those in 1940 and 1941.

Wall St. sources last week predicted a profit for Walt Disney Productions in the year to end Oct. 2. Prediction is based on the forthcoming production of "Treasure Island" in England, a move expected to convert all of Disney's presently blocked sterling and a good part of future UK earnings into dollars. Blocked British earnings were said to be an important contributing factor to the unfavorable showing last year and the first part of the current year. Company has about $850,000 of blocked funds in foreign countries, it is reported.

There were an estimated 90,097 motion picture theaters operating in 116 countries throughout the world in the first part of 1949 an increase of 11,123 or 14.1 per cent over the 1947 estimated total of 78,974 theaters, the U.S. Commerce Department reported. Approximately 72 per cent of all features shown in these 90.097 theaters were U.S. productions.

RKO Theaters have started to date the all-Disney combination of "Dumbo" and "Saludos Amigo's" along with "Seal Island", heralded as Walt Disney summer show.

United Artists' television dept. which started selling films to TV stations about March 15, is doing considerably better than paying for itself, company's board was informed last week at a session in New York. It was disclosed to the directors that with the addition of two salesmen recently, sales in one week hit almost $5,000 although billings are not anywhere near that mark as yet. Most of the products they are offering to stations have been made especially for TV. Very little of it is old theatrical shorts and features.

If you still don't think Television is box office competition, you should have seen the Ford Theater's production of "Light up the Sky" on CBS a week or so ago.

Paramount's Hollywood television outlet, KTLA, was picked up in Mindon La. on June 2 and in Brenham Tex., on June 3, according to letters received from those two towns by Klaus Lansberg. Freak atmospheric conditions carried the KLTA signal into Mindon and Brenham on the consecutive days. Each town received the video and audio for 30 minutes before the signal faded completely. Mindon is 1,440 airmiles from Hollywood, better than half way to New York. Brenham is 1,280 miles from L.A.

There is now in the works an animated version of the Adventures of Robin Hood for Television.

FOR THE BENEFIT OF THOSE THAT MAY NOT REMEMBER OUR TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT RATES WE AGAIN PRINT THEM HERE. NEEDLESS TO SAY, BEFORE ACCEPTING ANY JOB A LETTER SHOULD BE SECURED FROM THE UNION OFFICE, BY WRITING OR PHONING THE PRESIDENT OR BUSINESS AGENT.

TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT RATES

	Per foot	Per week	Per hour
ANIMATION	$ 7.50	$ 187.50	$ 5.00
ASSISTING	4.50	112.50	3.00
Per Drawing			
INBETWEENING	.45	75.00	2.00
Per cel			
INKING	.24	70.50	1.85
PAINTING	.40	66.00	1.65

TOP COP

SCREEN CARTOONIST LOCAL 1461
800 Riverside Drive
New York 32, N.Y.

September 1949 — Larry Riley, EDITOR

O U R U N I O N

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
to be held on
Wednesday, September 14
HOTEL CLARIDGE BALL ROOM
Broadway and 44th St.
at 7:00 P.M.

Group Health Insurance, Inc. is trying to interest us in their services. Since reports have been good, Irving Spector is looking into the matter and will bring back a report to the Executive Board.

Last October in an arbitration between our Guild and Famous Studios, the Arbitrator wanted payment for his services. It was agreed between the Company and the Guild that we each send $25.00, making the total of $50.00 in all. However the Arbitrator felt that his time had been worth much more, so he returned the money and the matter was dropped. Recently the Arbitrator again approached Mr. Klein, Famous's lawyer, about payment. The Company said they would like to re-submit the $50.00 if the Guild was agreeable, and our $25.00 is being dispatched as our part.

Clearance cards have been accepted for Joe Sabo and Preston Blair from the West Coast Local. Local 852 has been asked to accept a Clearance card for Hal Ambro. Ambro has been working for Lars Calonious here, is returning to Disney's. Also, a Clearance card from the West Coast has been accepted for Carl Fallberg working for Calonious Prod.

Max Kubel has been granted dispensation from payment of dues since he is still unable to work due to his accident last December.

In the newly signed M.G.M. contract was a security clause limiting the employment of artists in that studio to artists in the "Animated Cartoon Industry in Los Angeles County" which did not exactly please the Executive Board since it excludes all of our members in spite of the fact that we are doing our utmost to bring here as many of the West Coast unemployed members as possible. Our Business-Agent was instructed to voice our dissatisfaction with the clause when he made his recent trip to the Coast. Your Business Agent will no doubt have further details on the subject to report to you at this coming General Membership Meeting.

INFORMATION FOR OUR ERRANT BOARD MEMBERS: The rule for attendance, made at the time the Board met twice a month, has been changed. At that time the ruling read that if a Board member missed 2 meetings in the month he had to pay full dues for that month. But since the Board only meets once a month now, the Board has made a new ruling, to wit: The attendance at all Board meetings be compulsory and if a member misses a meeting, he should pay full dues for the month.

These are lush times for the independents. Most of the small studios such as Archer Prod., Tempo, Fletcher Smith, and Animation House have more business than they know what to do with, and are having a hard time meeting their schedules. There are not enough workers around to meet their needs.

Contracts are about to be signed with Archer Productions, and Spectrolux. Film Graphic did renew their contract with the proviso that the vacation clause be the same as the other studios; ten days instead of twelve granted here-to-fore. We are, at the present time, negotiating renewal of the C.B.S. contract. Contracts have also been signed with Ben Harrison and Al Stahl, and both studios are working.

TELEVISION PICTURES WILL BE SHOWN AT OUR NEXT MEETING FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR MEMBERS. BESIDES SOME OF THE WORK DONE LOCALLY, TWO WEST COAST SERIES PRODUCED BY RAY PATIN AND TED PARMELEE (BILL HIRST AND LEW KELLER WORKED ON THE SKETCHES AND LAYOUTS, ALSO) HAVE BEEN PROMISED. YOUR BUSINESS AGENT SAW THESE TWO WEST COAST PRODUCTS AND HAS PRONOUNCED THEM EXCELLENT AND HIGHLY INTERESTING. WE CERTAINLY URGE ALL WHO ARE INTERESTED, AND EVERY ONE OF US SHOULD BE, IN THE NEW BUSINESS TO ATTEND THE SHOW.

FLIPPINGS

Among the good news items was the arrival of little Clifford Charles Tesser, born to Jack and Dorothy....Edith Vernick now at TRANSFILM after a quarter of a century at Famous... FRANK SPAULDING resigned from Famous also....TONY RIVERA free lancing at TEMPO PROD.... STEVE GATTONI and SAM STIMPSON terminating their connections with the SIGNAL CORPS....BEN

FARRISH, GORDON SHEEHAN and JIMMY TANAKA now with ERNEST PITTARO'S SPECTROLUX....Sorry to see HAL AMBRO going back to the coast....RUDY ZAMORA now working for JAM HANDY in Detroit... PAUL BUSCH at TEMPO PROD.

ONE YEAR OLDER THIS MONTH: JOHNNY WALWORTH...BILL HUDSON...SAM ROBBINSON...SHIRLEY KNORING ...CHARLOTTE KLOEPPER...JOHN FOSTER...GENE SETTINO...DAVE SALTER...TONY CREAZZO...ISAAC HECHT. Congratulations.

TRADE NEWS

Metro made a cooperative ad deal with General Foods which will issue "flip books" in which the cartoon characters "Tom and Jerry", "Barney Bear", and "Droopy the Hound", will appear. Series will be distributed with Grape Nuts Flakes. By Oct. 1st "Autografriends" will be released. It will be the second cartoon in the company's history to combine live action with drawings. "Tom and Jerry" will be seen getting autographs of various MGM stars.

George Pal is making his first "live" motion picture, "Ruppert" having cast aside all hopes of continuing with his Puppetoons.

Negotiations for merchandising tieups with Warners cartoons will be handled through a new by-product office of Warner Cartoons. Warner cartoons characters now available for licensing to commercial manufacturers include Bugs Bunny, Tweety Pie, Porky Pig, Daffy Duck, Elmer, Sniffles and Beaky.

From United Productions: Columbia has picked up UPA options and the company will do four more theatrical cartoons in a series of eight. They are also making a new series of TV commercials for Ford. Ted Geisel (Dr. Seuss) cartoons are being used in the series. Bob Cannon is directing. In their expanding plans the company will add a third wing to their beautiful building. Art Babbit will direct the new unit. Rudy Larriva is now in charge of UPA's cartoon and story unit which will do three color commercials for Proctor and Gamble in Havana. All productions are for theatrical release in Latin American countries.

At a meeting of the National Television Film Council last month speaking on "What a TV Station Looks for and Can't Find in Television Films", Mr. Livingston recalled the anonymous observation that "a Television set is an instrument which makes you sit at home in your living room and watch the feature picture you walked out on several years ago.

London: In the 16 years since the organization was first launched in London, the Walt Disney setup for merchandising has developed to its present peak level where its annual turn over exceeds $2000.000. Bulk of the earnings is convertable into dollars and is transferred to its opposite number in the U.S.

Disney will go all-out in a saturation television-trailer campaign on his two cartoon features, "Ichabod and Mr. Toad" and "Cinderella." Studio will make a 20 seconds, 30 seconds and full minute video trailers for use on all stations in key cities throughout the U.S. It'll mark the first time that Disney has used video medium. Spokesman stated that Disney now feels that television has reached the stage where it's one of the most important sales mediums.

BEFORE ACCEPTING ANY JOB A LETTER SHOULD BE SECURED FROM THE UNION OFFICE BY EACH WORKER. PHONE OR WRITE THE PRESIDENT OR BUSINESS AGENT.

TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT RATES

	Per foot	Per week	Per hour
ANIMATION	$ 7.50	$ 187.50	$ 5.00
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INBETWEENING	.45	75.00	2.00
	Per cel		
INKING	.24	70.50	1.85
PAINTING	.40	66.00	1.65

TOP CEL

SCREEN CARTOONIST LOCAL 1461
800 Riverside Drive
New York 32, N. Y.

October 1949

OUR UNION

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
to be held
Wednesday, October 12
HOTEL CLARIDGE BALL ROOM
Broadway and 44th St.
at 7:00 P.M.

Your Executive Board has passed a ruling that if the head of a department should do any outside work in competition with other members, he or she should be compelled to pay full dues for that month. It should be explained here that a head of a department, though a member of the Union, is not required to pay full dues.

Miss Sara Tsuruoka has been reinstated. Miss Tsuruoka was a member in good standing at the time she left a couple of years ago. All of her dues are paid to date. However, she has not been active in the industry because she left to go to school, and lost her membership in the local.

GROUP INSURANCE REPORT by IRVING SPECTOR. It appears that the Group Insurance would be better for large groups, plus the fact that we would still have to belong to the "Blue Cross Plan". Spector will check further.

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE. An Entertainment Committee was formed at the last General Membership Meeting to be headed by Morey Redden. Mr. Reden is getting some very able help in this activity from Johnny Vita. We hope to have something to suggest to the membership real soon.

It has been voted that the Vice President (Mr. Redden again!) shall be responsible for the proper functioning of ALL committees. In the past a committee was formed and after a few tries the committee and committee members were forgotten. Now the Vice Pres. will have to report to the Board in the functioning of the different groups we have.

Members should take notice that the fourth and final quarter of the year starts with October and that according to the present rules on attendance they must attend one of the three.

TO THOSE WORRIED ONES. Since the August meeting was cancelled, some members would lack the necessary one out of three attendance if they missed the September meeting in the last quarter. However, it was decided that the August meeting shall be counted as an attended meeting for everyone. So everyone is okay and as soon as the wailing and moanings of "NOW THEY TELL US!" die down, everyone can go back to sleep until the end of the next quarter.

FREE LANCE FOOTAGE. The 120 hour free lance guarantee shall be limited to a 6 week period at the minimum rate of 20 hours per week. This ruling shall apply only to members who are employed full time in a studio other than that granting the free lance work. For the information of members as well as producers, the Executive Board in further interpreting the members ruling on free lance work, has decided that employment for more than three weeks means employment in the same job. The idea is not that in order to avoid the payment of premium pay an assistant be hired for a week, expect him to do the inbetweens for another and finally had him finishing painting the third. With the demand we have on artists we might as well insist on our rules. Another custom was to guarantee the three weeks and let elapse time until the following job, weeks after the worker was unemployed again. In that case a time limit is to be imposed and the Business Agent should see that the agreement is made on footage basis rather than hour basis.

Although the office does not particularly like to make entries in the dues (black) book every single month it is well to remember that ever so often the payments made should appear. That's the official record as far as the Brotherhood is concerned, and any insurance payment due to us could not be made unless the entries are all written down. Most members bring their books every six months or so, but others never do. How about bringing them into your stewards.

In this connection all Charter Members or all members with more than five years in the Local have received new dues books. The old one must be sent to the Brotherhood for certification. Again it will be well if those members give the books to the stewards so we can forward them to the Brotherhood office.

All this came to mind when a member lost his wife. The Business Agent suggested this member ask for the insurance due him from the Brotherhood. After long and tedious paper work, the member received his check, but the books had to be in order before any payment could be made.

KNOW YOUR STUDIO DEPT.: Ted Esbaugh, the long enduring little Studio next door to Famous was desperately looking for help. With our control more effective each day, any time some one called the office concerning employment we gave them the information requested. The animation price offered by Esbaugh was $ 3.50 per foot, our rates are $ 7.50. For inking they were offering $ 40.00 per week. Our members receive $ 75.00 per week for the similar job on a free lance basis. We wish to report that Esbaugh has hired an out of towner.(inker)

F L I P P I N G S

We were happy to greet SID GLENAR from the West coast. One of the old timers, he wanted to say hello to his many friends here....A pleasant surprise to everyone was the recent marriage of Peggy Monnot and LU GUARNIER. LEE BLAIR gave them an impromtu party. Congratulations....SARA TSURUOKA now working at Tempo....HAL AMBRO returned to the West coast....GEORGE SINGER has moved his office. Any member wanting his phone number can get it from the office....BOB PERRY now working at Transfilm....CHUCH HARRITON and SYDEL SOLOMON working at Ben Harrison....Fletcher Smith Slide Film Dept. taking an unexpected and unwelcome vacation....Top Cel wishes to welcome to Famous, SALLY LILLI, Mr. Buchwald's new secretary....We were sorry to see ROSE SANTO (now Mrs. Morrison) leave. Good luck in Baltimore....ROBERT SORIA now at Graphic....RED AUGUSTSON with Al Stahl Studio.

ONE YEAR OLDER THIS MONTH: PHIL LAZARA....LEO KLEIN....HOWARD KAKUDO....RUTH GORMAN.... TOM NAEGELE....TOM GOLDEN....IZZI KLEIN....IRVING DRESSLER....EARL MURPHY....JOE D'ANGIO ....IRVING SIROTA....RALPH SANCIER....ADELE CAPACCIO....BEVERLY GREEN....NEIL SESSA.... RUTH KUSS....Congratulations.

T R A D E N E W S

A course in cartoon animation for motion pictures and television has been added to the City College curriculum, it was announced last week by Dr. Harry Wright president of the college. The course started last Wednesday evening and registeration was open to the general public as well as matriculated students.

Securing film rights to Capitol Records "Bozo the Clown", Laffytoons Productions within the next three weeks on the Coast will launch series of 13 color cartoon shorts. Headed by Alex Lovey and Al Zimbalist, company is subsidary of International Film Enterprises. Briefies reportedly will be released by a major distributor.

A series of key city cluster dates, starting Oct. 12, Columbus Day, will be launched by RKO for Walt Disney's "Ichabod and Mr. Toad." Dates will be spearheaded by an exchange situation in many instances. In the larger cities, the dates will be assisted by a strong exploitation campaign similar to the recent RKO area premieres.

MADRID, Has Walt Disney Spanish blood? According to the Madrid weekly, Digame, Disney's real name is Jose Luiz Guiora Zamora y Asensio. He was born, it adds, in the village of Mojacar, on the outskirts of the coast town of Almeria (south of Spain), celebrated for its dry fruit production.

Baby Jose Luiz was taken to the States by relatives, who later changed their names and his, it's claimed, the whole clan became U.S. citizens.

Now every film fan is boasting about the Spanish origin of the creator of Mickey Mouse.

BEFORE ACCEPTING ANY JOB LESS THAN THREE WEEKS A LETTER SHOULD BE SECURED FROM THE UNION OFFICE BY EACH WORKER. PHONE OR WRITE THE PRESIDENT OR BUSINESS AGENT.

ANIMATION	Per foot	$ 7.50	Per week	$ 187.50	Per hour	$ 5.00
ASSISTING	" "	4.50	" "	112.50	" "	3.00
INBETWEEN	Per dwg.	.45	" "	75.00	" "	2.00
INKING	Per cel	.24	" "	70.50	" "	1.85
PAINTING	" "	.40	" "	66.00	" "	1.65

RULING OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP, JUNE MEETING: That no member of the Union can make arrangements with a producer for wage payment that are not being made in the customary manner. Arrangements for payments in any other way must be approved by the Executive Board.

STUDIOS THAT PAY UNION RATES: Famous Studios....Film Graphic....Fletcher Smith.... Spectrolux....Tempo Productions....Sturgis Grant Productions....Archer Productions....Transfilm, Ben Harrison....Cineffects....Al Stahl Studios....C.B.S.....A.B.C.....WPIX.... Animation House.

TOP CEL

SCREEN CARTOONIST LOCAL 1461
800 Riverside Drive
New York 32, N.Y.

November 1949 Larry Riley, EDITOR

OUR UNION

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
to be held on
Wednesday, November 9th
HOTEL CLARIDGE BALL ROOM
Broadway and 44th St.
at 7:00 P.M.

At a special General Membership meeting, we voted to back up the Cineffects Unit in their stand; to strike if necessary if the company doesn't meet their demands. Strangely enough, the demands the group is putting forth are for nothing more than a complete enforcement of the present contract rather than accepting the company's position which is nothing more than looking for "loop holes" which enable them to underrate the rest of the Producers. At this writing the Union is still negotiating. The Cineffects Unit in taking their stand, and the Union as a whole backing that stand, has greatly strengthened both our Union and our industry as well.

THIS IS ANIMATION...After very careful study the Executive Board approved the following definition of "ANIMATION" as set forth by a group of workers, mainly animators.

> "Animation is the creation of the illusion of motion on film, television, animated signs or other communicational devices by the use of successive drawings, by moving cut outs, or other objects or by altering any drawings in progressive steps under the camera."

The Executive Board is recommending to the General Membership that Pepe Ruiz, our Business Agent, be given a monthly expense account of twenty-five dollars. When the idea was first presented to the Executive Board, the Business Agent was instructed to present a detailed account of his monthly expenses. The resulting figure was a good deal more than the above suggested one. However, since we are not in a position to meet the full amount, a committee with the aide of an Accountant worked out the above compromise.

The Board declined a request by Animation House to set up a new classification between Inbetweeners and Assistant at a $62.50 rate. Besides the fact that it would be unfair to the other producers, it was also felt we have too many classifications already.

Animation House has notified the Union that all future labor relations will be handled through Mr. Sidney Morse, and not by Mr. Rehberg.

We have further complications with Ted Esbough. The inker who unwittingly worked for him below Union rates had a tough time getting her pay. Our attorney was brought into the case and our Business Agent was put to the trouble of going for the check personally. To complicate matters further, the girl's name was not spelled correctly on the check and she had great difficulty in cashing it.

LETTER FROM THE COAST... The West Coast's security clause which aroused so much protest among our members here on the East Coast, has been discussed here and by your Business Agent in the General Membership Meetings. Excerpts from the following letter may help to simplify this matter further:

"Dear Sirs,

When your Business Agent, Pepe Ruiz, visited us last Summer he pointed out to us in no uncertain terms that the West Coast Union had signed contracts that discriminate against anyone not having worked six months in Los Angeles County in the past three years or since January 1, 1944.

...for the record and for better understanding between us...there was never any intention on the part of our members to discriminate against your local. They were only trying to regain some union security lost when the enactment of the Taft-Hartley Act denied them the preferential hiring arrangements under union shop agreements...This clause, which none of us care too much for, is the best they could do under the circumstances. I do hope you can understand our position what with 250 unemployed and no means of requiring the producers to hire union members.

I hope you understand that I am not trying to justify the fact that the wordings of the clause does discriminate against you technically, I only hope you understand that in practice the clause will not effect you at all.

Bill Littlejohn
Business Agent "

Last month the West Coast Local celebrated its tenth anniversary. Nobody can be more sincere than we are in congratulating our West Coast brothers. Noone could feel as close to them as we do. Up to now our two Locals have faced the same problems and we have enjoyed the same successes. We are not yet ten years old, but we have proven ourselves as worthy followers. Let us hope in the coming years that our Locals may achieve even more together, and that our close bond shall continue and find new strength.

The end of the year is close upon us and with it come negotiations with our largest studio, Famous. Toward that end, at the next meeting, delegates should be elected from the different departments to work out the proposed demands, to have them ready for the Executive Board and the General Membership.

Bill Fox appeared before the Executive Board to answer charges brought by the Business Agent to the effect that he refused to comply with the Business Agent's order to stop working at Animation House when all the other workers had done so. The Executive Board found Fox guilty as charged, and although the Board felt that the violation was serious enough to warrant his expulsion from the Union, they considered the mitigating circumstances in the case, and will bring before the General Membership the recommendation that Bill Fox be fined one week's salary.

FLIPPINGS-- The Hal ROBBINS' welcomed a little pumpkin (5 lb. boy) Halloween eve. Mother and father doing nicely....AURI BATTAGLIA also became a proud father this month....MARTIN TARRIS wearing an "expectant" smile these days....New painters at Famous VIOLA ANDERSON...CATHELEEN CLEARY...IRENE POLKOWSKI...MARY LU STIENE, and ELEANOR KEENAN....ARCHER PRODUCTIONS have moved to larger quarters. The new address is 35 West 53rd St. ....Visitors in from the West Coast, TOM ARMSTRONG...GEORGE CRENSHAW...CHRIS ISHI...JUDY PRICE...LEE HALPERN and ARNOLD GILLESPIE.... Congratulations to ZEKE DE GRASSE upon his return with a wife and a son, "Steamboat"....BILL CARNEY leaving Famous to animate for the JAM HANDY PRODUCTIONS in Detroit.
ONE YEAR OLDER THIS MONTH: PAULETTE HACKE...GORDON WHITTIER...AL SEMELS...EDDY REHBERGH...BOB LITTLE...ROSALIE (SOCOLOV) WALDMAN...JACK MENDELSOHN...AL SCHIRANO...PETER DE ANGELO...TERRY VARELA...RALPH PEARSON...GEORGE OLDEN...BERNY STEINBERG...GEO. MAY...BOB OWEN...CHUCK HARRITON.

TRADE NEWS.
Film production for television has "proved" itself as far as the banks are concerned with the latter willing to make loans to successful producers in the full knowledge that the money will be used for additional production. Although the number of loans to date have been comparatively small, the fact that they have been made at all has proven heartening to many producers who have made successful TV series but often find themselves strapped for cash. Loans that have been made were on the basis of 25% to 50% of the production company's original deposit with the bank without regard to the status of the current balance.

HORIZON LINES - A few days back during a chat with an advertising executive, this reporter asked when animated cartoon advertising was going to get into a profitable sphere in TV, (which incidentally could use longer spot cartoons.) "We are waiting for a larger coverage" said the executive. "At the present there are 2,565000 TV sets in the country, according to the latest count. In New York City alone within another year at the current rate of sales 50,000 additional sets per month will be installed. Thus TV will be approaching a profitable circulation. So sharpen your pencils, fellows, it won't be too long.

Expansion plans for additional building space at the United Productions of America studios in Burbank were announced last week. This is the first step in an expansion program, and eventually an upper story will be added to the building to accommodate upwards of 150 employees. This is a minimum requirement for the fast growing young cartoon and film studio since the production schedule calls for one entertainment cartoon feature per year, 12 to 18 cartoon shorts for release through Columbia Pictures, plus television and commercial film divisions.

An added gadget just started this month, is results of "The Wiggle Test" on pix considered especially suitable for kids. "Wiggle Test" is a preview by moppets which is observed to find how quietly or how impatiently they sit through a film. Here is the reaction on Walt Disney's "Adventure of Ichabod and Mr. Toad": "Although the children enjoyed Mr. Toad, their attention twice dropped down to passive acceptance. The fight with the weasel in Toal Hall elicited the peak of enthusiasm. That many of the children did not understand the narration was shown by their questions to each other during the screening...Active participation and close attention, however,consistently marked the reactions, which never fell below the interest level.

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ASSISTING	" "	4.50	" "	112.50	" "	3.00
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INKING	Per cel	.24	" "	70.50	" "	1.85
PAINTING	" "	.40	" "	66.00	" "	1.65

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TOP CEL

SCREEN CARTOONIST LOCAL 1461
800 Riverside Drive
New York 32, N.Y.

December 1949 — Larry Riley, EDITOR

OUR UNION

NOTICE OF SPECIAL COMPULSORY MEETING
CALLED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
to be held on
Wednesday, December 14th
HOTEL CLARIDGE BALL ROOM
Broadway and 44th St.
at 7:00 P. M.

(July 9, 1947: General Membership ruling: "That in the future any special membership meeting called by the Executive Board should be compulsory and liable to fine.....")

We certainly didn't need the West coast Local "The Animator" to remind us how long it has been since we received a raise. Somehow we hear about strikes and conflicts in other industries and 10% increases here, pensions payed by an employer there, 11.7% increase written down in the moving pictures workers contracts, etc., but the cartoonist do not seem to move...that is, outside of the pressure requesting more and better work.

Feeling that it is about time to do something about it, the West and East coast locals are determined to secure an adjustment in salaries this year. To this effect, in order to be prepared for any eventuality, our Board is making this meeting compulsory in order to recommend the adoption of a weekly assessment to go to our Strike Fund. According to Sec. 228 of the Brotherhood constitution "no resolution providing for the levying of a tax or assessment shall be voted upon the night of its introduction," so another General Membership meeting will be needed for the final approval, but the whole discussion, like the approval of Famous demands will take place next Wed., Dec. 14th. The rest of the studios will be covered by this ruling, since whatever agreement is reached with Famous will be the pattern followed by the rest of the Producers. So you are subject to the fine if you do not attend and will be subject to the proposed weekly assessment.

As an extra added attraction, we are offering for this meeting only, a super colossal, never to be surpassed production, (not a cartoon) of a Christmas dinner and ensuing floor show, made some twelve years ago by a group of Fleischer artists, in that golden era when the boys were in their prime with no worries, no wives, no dues to pay, and no meetings to attend. See these mastedons of the cartoon world in their natural habit at play. They walk, they talk, they crawl upon their bellies like human reptiles!!! It should be most edifying. Also showing, as an anti-climax, but no less interesting, will be an experimental film in color, "No Credit". This film, produced in 1948, will show what can be done with stop motion in animating modeling clay.

The Cineffects' Union contract is signed and congratulations are in order for President Jack Zander and our lawyer Maruy Cristenfeld for the splendid work they did, and to the workers for their fine show of strength. After weeks of negotiations by Zander and Cristenfeld, the workers had to take the case in their own hands and stay out of work in a meeting until the company signed the agreement we wanted. With the workers out, our Business Agent was able to complete the negotiations in no time, and the contract was signed. A special meeting of the General Membership approved the agreement. The same meeting gave a vote of thanks to Zander and Cristenfeld. It is to be hoped that other units will profit by the Cineffects' worker's experience, and with it will come the realization that we can get the things we want and need if we are willing to fight for them.

At the last regular General Membership meeting, the members sustained the Executive Board findings and recommendations in the charges brought against Bill Fox for not complying with an order given by the Business Agent. The order given was in accordance with a ruling of the Executive Board and General Membership, and while the rest of his fellow workers complied with the order, Fox failed to do so. Although the Board found the violation a very serious one, in view of the extenuating circumstances, Fox was let off with a fine of one week's salary.

On April 13th of this year, Governor Dewey signed the N.Y. State Disability Benefits Law, which establishes a system of cash benefits payable to employees disabled as a result of injury or sickness NOT arising out of and in the course of employment. Cash benefits to replace in part lost wages - not medical care - are provided by the law. The law becomes fully effective on July 1, 1950. In order to accumulate funds, however, a temporary assessment begins on Jan. 1,

1950. The purpose of this law is to set up an insurance system to pay cash benefits ranging from $10.00 to $26.00 weekly, depending on income, for a maximum of thirteen weeks to employees who are absent because of illness not arising out of their employment. An employee must be sick or disabled and under a physician's care for at least a week before he is eligible for payment.

The following table shall determine the amount of temporary contributions to be reported and payed as of January 1st, with the Employer matching the same amount:

Wages	Employee Contribution (wk.)
25.00 --- 34.99.	.03
35.00 --- 44.99.	.04
45.00 --- 54.99.	.05
55.00 --- and over	.06

FLIPPINGS: After two years overseas RENE STURBELLE is back at STURGIS-GRANT....CHUCK HARRITON happily married last month. Congratulations....After a short five day stay in the hospital with an appendectomy, CHRIS ISHII is working at TEMPO....We are sorry JIMMY CULHANE didn't contact our office while in town....AL STAHL STUDIO moving to larger quarters at 1600 Broadway....FILM GRAPHIC also moving to Manhattan....We regret not being able to accept UNITED PRODUCTION'S invitation to their Animation Art Festival....JOHNNY VITA working at CBS ....TERRY VARELA at ABC....BOB and ANN LITTLE the proud parents of a LITTLE girl born last month....DANNY and PAT HUNN welcomed a not so little girl, 9 lbs, 6 oz. on Nov. 26th.... MARTY and LEE TARAS also added to the baby parade with the addition of a girl to their family. Congratulations....EDITH VERNICK a proud Delegate to the A.V.C. Convention at Chicago last month....LOU TERRI and VINCENT ELETTO leaving for a new assignment with the Air Corps Animation Unit in the Middle West....HOWARD KAKUDO, FRANK DE LUCA and JOE D'ANGIO back at FLETCHER SMITH after another forced vacation....JIM CARMICHAEL in town...One year older this month: GRAHAM PLACE....BILL BAILEY....VIOLET SZAGETI....JACQUELINE HANNER....NORMA KORN.... GEORGE SINGER....ELSA FUNARO....FRANK SPALDING....BILL HINES.... JIMMY LOGAN....OTTO FEUER... GENE SOGIOKA....SAM COBEAN....RENE STURBELLE....CONNIE QUIRK.

TRADE NEWS:

In spite of the ever present claim that cartoons don't make money, we are happy to announce that Warner will be making 30 cartoons next year instead of 26 made in 1949.

Theater construction in the U.S. during 1949 is likely to reach an all-time high, according to an extensive Film Daily survey. The unprecedented number of showcases opened during the first nine months of the year total 1,704. Of these, 882 are theaters and 822 Drive-Ins. These figures do not include the great number of houses that have reopened during the period, nor those under construction.

Tom and Jerry will be syndicated nationally as a comic strip by Associated Press MGM announced last month.

Paramount will release one short subject per week during this last quarter of the current year to complete its total program of 52 shorts, Oscar Morgan, short subject and news general sales manager, announced. Included among the releases are "Carribean Capers", "The Country Doctor", "Water Speed", "The Husky Parade", "Busy Little Bears", Suddenly It's Spring","Leprechaun's Gold", "Song of the Birds", "Barking Dogs Don't Bite", "The Fly's Last Flight", "Strolling Through the Park" and "The Big Drip".

Feature deals reported by the Paramount sales staff for the 1949-50 season have thus far trebled the number of contracts turned in for the same period of selling a year ago, Alfred W. Schwalberg, vice-president in charge of distribution revealed recently. The Paramount record, he added, is in contradiction of the frequently heard "recession" talk and is prime evidence that the industry is "in extremely healthy condition."

PARAMOUNT NAILED DOWN ITS TRADITIONAL HOLD ON THE TOP-EARNINGS SPOT IN THE FILM BUSINESS WHEN THE COMPANY REPORTED A NET TAKE OF $19,299,000 FOR THE FIRST THREE QUARTERS OF THE CURRENT YEAR. COMPANY, WITH ITS GIANT THEATRE HOLDINGS, IS FAR AND AWAY FROM ALL OTHER MAJORS, ITS CLOSEST CONTENDER BEING 20th-FOX WHICH HAS SHOWN $5,695,679 FOR THE OPENING HALF OF THE YEAR. AT THE SAME TIME, COMPANY'S TAKE WAS SUBSTANTIAL ENOUGH TO KEEP IT WITHIN REACH OF THE $24,357,102 NET OF 1948.

The long planned idea of United Productions to open a New York office and handle not only the promotion and selling of its pictures, but to have a nucleus of artists here to take care of story board, presentation, etc., came into effect this month when the company appointed Edward L. Gershmann to head the Manhattan operation. With the 25% increase in their personel and their building program to add 13 additional offices accommodating 40 or 50 employees, we find it hard to understand how the major cartoon producers cannot follow this organization's lead and expand their operations.

Comic books and industry publicity departments have discovered eachother with the result that several million copies of the dime sellers are now promoting film personalities and new pictures each month.

LIVELY IMAGINATION: Speaking of the "big decrease" in the cost of living in the past year, did you know that a dollar buys about 3½¢ more food this year than it did in 1948?...that if your weekly grocery bill is around $15 you get only 50¢ more food than a year ago?...that if you spend $20 a week for food you receive only 70¢ more in food than last year? According to these Commerce Department figures, the "big" drop in the high cost of living is only a figment of the Chamber of Commerce's imagination!